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YOU DON'T SAY...

"I think I know to which brunch I'm going on Sunday!"

Chuck McGrady, R-Henderson, on Hendersonville's 4-1 vote to immediately expand Sunday alcohol sales.

TWITTER VIA THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17

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News Summary

Worker Visas

North Carolina lawmakers are taking aim at a loophole allowing companies that receive state job-creation grants to fill those positions with workers brought to the U.S. on visas. At issue is the H-1B visa, a federal program highly popular among employers in Charlotte and elsewhere for letting companies hire skilled foreign workers on a temporary basis. The decades-old program has also drawn criticism, including from President Donald Trump, who has said the visas are being abused to replace American workers with cheaper foreign labor.

On Thursday, India-based outsourcing giant Infosys became the latest firm that relies heavily on visa workers to be granted millions of dollars in taxpayer-funded incentives from North Carolina.

For its part, Infosys said it will hire only Americans for 2,000 jobs it will create in exchange for a \$25 million incentives package to put a new tech hub in Wake County. Such assurances aren't deterring lawmakers who argue companies should not even have the option of using visas to meet job-creation requirements in their incentives contracts. Legislation seeking to plug the loophole stalled in the General Assembly's session that ended last week, but lawmakers say they will not give up.

"It's great to recruit businesses to North Carolina, but I think the intent to bring them here is to employ citizens of North Carolina," said Sen. Harry Brown, a Jacksonville Republican who was primary sponsor of a bill during the recent session that, among other things, targeted the loophole. He said he plans to pursue the issue during next year's legislative session. Democratic Sen. Erica Smith-Ingram, of Northampton County, who also sponsored the bill, argues the loophole "defeats the purpose of making sure there are jobs for North Carolinians." "I'm even more committed to seeing that bill passed," she said.

Brown said the bill's ban against H-1B workers being eligible for counting toward job totals was prompted by Observer coverage last year on North Carolina's practice of awarding tens of millions in incentives to companies that hire foreign workers. Such awards have been granted under deals to create jobs in Charlotte as well as other parts of the state, the Observer found. In one case cited by the Observer, Noida, India-based outsourcing firm HCL Technologies was awarded more than \$19 million by North Carolina in 2014, in exchange for investing \$9 million toward expanding a facility in Cary and creating 1,237 new jobs there by the end of 2018. The next year, the company filed applications for more than 2,000 H-1B workers based in North Carolina, the vast majority in Wake County.

In Charlotte, Infosys has been among the top users of H-1B visas to bring information technology workers into the metro area. The firm counts IBM, Ernst & Young and Charlotte-based Bank of America among its clients. In a statement, Infosys said it does not plan to hire any H-1B workers at the Cary operation to meet its 2,000-job goal: "We will be hiring local American workers, none of whom need any kind of visa assistance program."

Infosys has been among firms ordered by the U.S. government to pay fines to settle claims of visa abuse. Last month, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced a \$1 million settlement with Infosys, which was accused of "systemically abusing" visa rules. Among other things, the firm was charged with unlawfully using visitor visas to fill jobs and paying those workers significantly less than what comparable U.S. workers or H-1B visa holders would have been paid. In 2013, the U.S. Justice Department announced a record \$34 million fine against Infosys to settle allegations of essentially the same practices.

In a statement, Infosys said it "maintains robust policies and procedures to ensure adherence with all applicable regulations and laws." It's unclear whether Gov. Roy Cooper would support legislation that dismantles the loophole. As a gubernatorial candidate last year, he told the Observer incentives should not be used to replace North Carolina workers with cheaper foreign labor, but stopped short of promising to push for specific changes to the law. As with any legislation, Cooper would want to review the final language before deciding whether to sign or veto it, Ford Porter, a spokesman for the governor, said in a statement.

It's also unclear what will happen with the Senate bill and a related version in the House. Both bills were mainly focused on revamping how state incentives are allocated to counties based on how economically prosperous or distressed they are. The H-1B ban was a minor component of the bills and was removed from a later version of the House legislation but remained in a later Senate version. Republican Rep. John Fraley of Mooresville, a sponsor of the House bill, said he remains opposed to the loophole. Though the bill did not leave the House, he said he expects work to continue on the Senate and House versions in the coming months and into next year. "I think that if we are spending taxpayer money in North Carolina," Fraley said, "we ought to try to employ people here." (Deon Roberts, THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Legislative Districts

North Carolina lawmakers say they might have to change 116 of the state's 170 state legislative districts to correct the illegal racially gerrymandered districts used to elect General Assembly members for the past six years. The private attorneys representing the legislators who were sued over the 2011 district lines offered that detail in federal court documents this week as one reason

for opposing special elections this year. A month has passed since the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed a ruling of three federal judges who found 28 North Carolina legislative districts were drawn illegally to weaken the overall influence of black voters.

The three judges who made that ruling in 2016 -- James Wynn, an Obama appointee to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Catherine Eagles, an Obama appointee, and Thomas Schroeder, a George W. Bush appointee -- have been tasked with deciding how quickly legislators have to correct the maps and whether there is time for elections this year in the newly drawn districts. The NAACP and other challengers have asked the judges for a quick resolution and advocated for elections this year. "North Carolinians have the right to have their laws enacted by representatives elected from constitutionally compliant districts," the challengers said in a document filed last month after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the case.

The lawmakers have argued that too few months are left in this year to seek public opinion, "engage in internal discussions about the design of remedial districts, prepare draft remedial plans, receive public responses to those draft remedial plans, and incorporate public feedback into the final plans." "In 2011, the process took five months," Raleigh-based attorneys Phillip Strach and Thomas Farr said in the legislative position statement filed this week with the judges. "And implicit in this Court's criticism of that process is that the General Assembly should have done even more -- more outreach, more public hearings, more testimony, and more debate -- so that it could fully consider the views and interests of the citizens of North Carolina. It thus would make no sense to artificially constrain this remedial process by ordering the General Assembly to proceed on an expedited schedule that would foreclose the possibility of a transparent and public process -- especially given that ample time remains to complete the redistricting process for the 2018 elections without any prejudice to the plaintiffs."

The lawmakers' attorneys said that up to 35 of the state Senate districts might need to be modified, and 81 out of 120 state House of Representative districts could be changed. If the court were to order special elections this year, candidates for the legislative seats could find themselves campaigning for office in three different primary and general elections during a two-year period. Under the state Constitution, legislative terms are two years.

The state attorney general's office, which Democrat Josh Stein leads, also submitted a report to the federal judges this week on behalf of the state and its elections board, urging a swift decision by the panel. "The state does not dispute the severity of the harms that flow from unconstitutional gerrymandering," the filing by Stein and Alexander McC. Peters, a special deputy attorney general, states. "Even so, a special election would disrupt the ordinary processes of state government and would intrude to some degree on state sovereignty. But should the Court decide that the nature and severity of the harms found in this case justify such a remedy, the state, and state (elections) Board stand ready to implement it."

Last month, Gov. Roy Cooper called for a special session during the legislature's regular session to push lawmakers to draw maps for the judges to consider. Lawmakers didn't comply with the Democratic governor's request. They finished their regular session at the end of June but left open two dates for which they could return and draw new legislative districts and possibly judicial districts that could bring major changes in the courts.

Senate leader Phil Berger, a Republican from Rockingham County, and House Speaker Tim Moore, a Cleveland County Republican, appointed two lawmakers to lead redistricting committees in the Senate and House. They are Sen. Ralph Hise, a Republican from Mitchell County who is under investigation by the state elections board over complaints alleging campaign finance irregularities, and Rep. David Lewis, a Harnett County Republican. Each was part of the 2011 map-drawing that led to the racial gerrymanders. Lewis led the House committee six years ago, and Hise was a member of the Senate committee. In setting a schedule for possible sessions, on Aug. 3 and Sept. 6, the General Assembly leaders announced plans to have new maps no later than Nov. 15. But the three judges can order the lawmakers to act sooner. (Anne Blythe, THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Voter Fraud Commission

Some voters worried about a federal voter-fraud commission collecting information on them want to cancel their registration. The state elections board has been deluged with calls over the last few days about how the state is handling a request from the commission for voter data -- even though

the board says it's handing over only information that's already available to the public. Hundreds of people have called the Raleigh office of the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement, and at least 380 people sent email, said board spokesman Patrick Gannon. Some of those voters -- the office doesn't have a count -- are asking to cancel their registration or for instructions how to do so. "Kindly remove my name from NC voter rolls immediately. Thank you," one voter wrote Wednesday, adding that the commission "smells funny" and the people in charge could not be trusted.

President Donald Trump created the Presidential Commission on Voter Integrity by executive order in May. A letter that commission Vice Chairman Kris Kobach sent states in late June asking for information on voters, including partial Social Security numbers and felony convictions, sparked more controversy. The state is not giving the commission all it has, just information that's already available to the public, board executive director Kim Westbrook Strach said in a statement. That means the state won't hand over Social Security numbers, dates of birth, driver's license numbers and some of the other information people use to register. A few states have outright refused to give the commission anything. North Carolina is like others that are sending what's publicly available. Voter names, party registrations, addresses, and voting histories are public information. Votes cast are private.

The board is trying to discourage people worried about the fraud commission from canceling their registration. Canceling now will not prevent information already in the database from going to the commission. "The Bipartisan State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement has received phone calls and emails from voters who indicated they may cancel their registrations because of the recent federal request for voter data," Strach said. "Also, callers have inquired about how to go about canceling their registrations. We can't immediately say how many across the state have done so. Those requests are handled by the county boards of elections and the reason for any cancellation may not be known."

Dallas Woodhouse, state Republican Party executive director, said he would discourage voters from canceling their registration, unless those registrations are invalid. "There are invalid votes being cast," Woodhouse said. "Every invalid vote being cast nullifies a good one. Each state has a hard time figuring out who is registered in other states. Some assistance from a federal authority could be helpful." Bob Hall, executive director of the voting rights organization Democracy NC, called the June letter "a colossal blunder," and suspects that the commission's intent is to make people lose faith in the electoral process.

A North Carolina elections-board audit found that 508 ineligible voters cast ballots in 2016. More than 4.8 million voters participated in the election. The agency said the incidents weren't necessarily cases of voter fraud because voters may not have known they were committing a crime. (Lynn Bonner, THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Brunch Bill

Raleigh and Carrboro weren't the only communities allowing 10 a.m. alcohol sales on Sunday: Several towns from the mountains to the coast also passed new ordinances under the state's "brunch bill." Gov. Roy Cooper signed the bill into law on June 30, allowing restaurants to begin serving mimosas and other alcoholic beverages at 10 a.m. Sundays instead of noon -- but local government boards must first approve the change, which also applies to sales of alcohol in stores. Town and city councils can make the change inside their borders, while county commissioners are in charge of any unincorporated areas.

Carrboro became the first town with 10 a.m. alcohol sales with a Monday vote by the Board of Aldermen. The Raleigh City Council followed on Wednesday with a 7-1 vote. Two beach towns voted Thursday to expand alcohol sales: Atlantic Beach in Carteret County and Surf City on Topsail Island. "A lot of our visitors are from out of state and the blue laws that North Carolina has in effect seem a little arcane to people and they may not know about them," Atlantic Beach Mayor Trace Cooper told TV station WNCT. "If someone is visiting from out of state and planning to go to the beach on a Sunday morning, they may be surprised they weren't allowed to buy cold beers." Across the state in Hendersonville, the city council voted 4-1 Thursday night to immediately expand Sunday alcohol sales, according to the Hendersonville Lightning. Rep. Chuck McGrady, a Republican who supported the bill, praised his hometown leaders on Twitter Friday.

"Hendersonville moved quickly," he tweeted. While those towns appear to be the only five allowing Sunday morning sales on July 9, other towns are poised to join the list the following Sunday. Wrightsville Beach plans to vote Monday, according to the Greater Wilmington Business Journal, but Wilmington and other beach towns nearby will likely wait a few more weeks before taking action. The mayor of Pinehurst says she'll bring up the issue at the village council's meeting on Tuesday, according to The Pilot. Banner Elk in Avery County is scheduled to vote Monday, according to the High Country Press. On the Outer Banks, the Nags Head commissioners had scheduled a vote for Friday but then voted 3-2 to postpone the issue until later in the month, according to The Outer Banks Voice. Kill Devil Hills could vote Monday. Mecklenburg County commissioners plan to vote Tuesday, but their action will only apply to businesses in unincorporated areas, according to WCNC. The Charlotte City Council plans to take up the issue on July 24. Durham likely won't vote on alcohol sales until Aug. 7. Wake County Commissioner John Burns said county leaders wouldn't act until at least July 17 but are "working on" the issue. The unincorporated areas affected by the county's decision includes Raleigh-Durham International Airport.(Colin Campbell, THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Partisan Elections

Cleveland County School Board member Kathy Falls is one of more than 16,000 unaffiliated voters who could be adversely impacted by the recent passing of Senate Bill 253. Under the bill, which was ratified on June 29, school board elections in Beaufort, Carteret, Cleveland, Dare, Hyde, Madison, Onslow, Pender and Yancey counties were changed from non-partisan to partisan, meaning a candidate's political affiliation is disclosed on the ballot. Falls, who has served two terms on the Cleveland County Board of Education, is registered as unaffiliated and is seeking re-election in November.

Republican House Speaker Tim Moore said he requested that Cleveland County be included in the bill while it was being drafted by another legislator. "The reason I support the bill is I think it gives more information about candidates to voters. Education policy is often hotly debated, and there are often differences between the two philosophies," he said. "The more information voters have, the better." The bill will go into effect for eight of those counties in 2018 but has already started in Cleveland County because of the upcoming school board election in November. The change to a partisan race requires any unaffiliated candidates to obtain four percent, or just over 2,500, signatures of registered voters in the county, said Cleveland County Director of Elections Dayna Causby.

But according to the N.C. State Board of Elections' interpretation of the bill, those candidates would have needed to file their petitions by June 30, giving them less than 24 hours to collect the necessary signatures. The other option - declare a political party - is off the table at this point, as that must be done 90 days before candidate filing opens. Moore said he, and a majority of the General Assembly, disagree with the State Board of Elections' interpretation of the petition filing deadline for unaffiliated candidates. "Certainly any unaffiliated candidate should have the right to file for office, and I support that," he said.

Moore said the General Assembly, as well as the Cleveland County Board of Elections, has asked the state board for clarification on its interpretation. Ideally, the board will change its interpretation to allow unaffiliated school board candidates until Sept. 22 - the date municipal election candidates have to obtain the signatures. As of Friday afternoon, the state board had not replied to Causby's request to clarify its interpretation. She said she's been directed by Moore, as well as the Cleveland County GOP, to provide any unaffiliated candidate wishing to file for school board with the necessary petition packet.(Elise Franco, THE SHELBY STAR, 7/07/17).

Bond Rating

The three major bond rating agencies have re-affirmed North Carolina's triple-A bond rating, State Treasurer Dale Folwell announced Friday. The ratings, all with stable outlooks, mean the state can continue to borrow money for major projects at lower interest rates. It's going to market soon on \$106 million in general obligation bonds and another \$300 million in certificates of participation and limited obligation bonds.

Agency rundowns include analysis from the state budget approved last month, which invested heavily in the state's "rainy day" reserve fund and included individual and corporate income tax

cuts. Those cuts, some Democrats have argued, will create a big hole in the budget in future years as the bill comes due for what they have called unsustainable cuts that largely benefit the wealthy. This did not throw off the ratings from Fitch, Moody's or Standard & Poor's, all of which gave North Carolina bonds top marks. "They have never mentioned it -- ever," said Folwell, who liaised with analysts for two weeks on the ratings. "What they have mentioned, positively, is the amount of money North Carolina has in its rainy day fund."

Also a plus: North Carolina distinguished itself from other states by managing to pass a budget before the July 1 start of the fiscal year, Folwell said. Agency reports do note the state's fiscal flexibility, based in part on its willingness to raise taxes coming out of the last recession. That was under a Democratic regime, though, not the Republican one that holds a veto-proof majority in the legislature today. "I wouldn't say that we're not concerned or it's not a problem," Fitch analyst Karen Krop said of the new tax cuts. "Our rating says we expect state to manage within its revenues."

Standard & Poor's said market forecasts that it relied upon predict "robust economic expansion" for North Carolina in 2017 and 2018, which should help the state manage as it restructures its tax laws. The analysis said the economic growth is particularly due to available affordable housing and the state's favorable climate. State government, the group said, has a "long history of prudent fiscal management." Standard & Poor's gave the state a budgetary performance score of 1.2. On that scale, 1.0 is the strongest and 4.0 the weakest.

The state plans to sell its next round of bonds next Thursday. They'll be refunded to take advantage of lower interest rates, potentially saving more than \$60 million, Folwell's office said. North Carolina, his office said, is one of only 12 states to have a triple-A bond rating with all three agencies.(Travis Fain, WRAL NEWS, 7/7/17).

Campaign Cash

Although state lawmakers are officially in recess until August, some are still negotiating bills to vote on when they come back, and the interim could prove to be a very profitable break for them. North Carolina law prohibits legislators from accepting campaign donations while they are in session from the people and groups that employ lobbyists to influence them. "This has been the law for a number of years, and it rightly put bright lines to say, while they're in session, your money can't be used to try to influence a decision," said Bob Phillips, executive director of good-government group Common Cause North Carolina.

But because the General Assembly is out of session for more than 10 days, that ban is not in effect right now, meaning they can take checks from groups and industries that might be affected by some of the legislation still pending. House and Senate members are crafting new versions of a dozen bills, including changes to environmental regulations, taxes, business regulations and state administrative procedures. "In our view, it would be inappropriate for money to be contributed to lawmakers at this time," Phillips said. "No lawmaker will ever say that money influences them to make a decision. Of course, it doesn't, but it does provide access, and there's an appearance, too, that it does indeed influence them. We understand folks have to have money for their campaigns, but clearly, you don't want any of that happening while they are doing the people's business." State campaign finance laws also mean that lawmakers don't have to disclose until next January whether they took donations this month from interested groups. Republican legislative leaders have scheduled sessions in August, September, and November. The last time they held such boomerang sessions was in 2011 when the Democrat Gov. Bev Perdue was in office, but they have left themselves more leeway this time on what they can vote on during those sessions. Phillips said that, if lawmakers are planning to hold multiple sessions in future years, they might want to close the campaign finance loophole. "As much as we can, having clearer, brighter lines that have restrictions that everybody can understand is what we need," he said.(Laura Leslie, WRAL NEWS, 7/07/17).

Budget Pork

Budget pork is like barbecue: People disagree what qualifies, often based on geography. One analysis of the budget that North Carolina legislators just approved put its pork content at \$123 million. Another saw \$45.6 million worth in a two-year general fund that totals about \$23 billion a

year. Gov. Roy Cooper's office put the tally at \$73.6 million in the general fund, plus another \$6.7 million in highway projects.

But however you slice, chop or pull it, legislators tied up millions with highly specific purse strings. They'll bolster local projects, pay for a controversial new pollution treatment at Jordan Lake and fund a 3-D movie program for school children that, among other things, aims to prevent drug abuse. There's money for family counseling, pro-life pregnancy centers, girls and boys clubs and for a major game lands expansion in the home county of one of North Carolina's most powerful politicians. Some language is so specific it essentially amounts to a state contract.

Joseph Coletti, who worked in former Gov. Pat McCrory's budget office, said there are more than 100 line items in this latest budget directing more than \$30 million to private entities by name. At least one other section doesn't name the company but is so specific there can be little doubt of the intent. "This is a criticism of the process, not the goals or the groups," Coletti wrote last month for the John Locke Foundation, where he's now a senior fellow. Coletti said he'd prefer to see competition for these sorts of grants, with tracking of what the group is trying to accomplish and whether they do so. "Any time a private vendor is named in the budget, it is a setback for open government and budgeting," he wrote. "There is no reason for a \$23 billion budget to direct \$20,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of Greene County."

A few lines in the middle of the budget sidestep the state's usual grants process for land conservation, ordering a \$2.66 million purchase of property in Rockingham County. This would add 1,100 acres of game land to an existing 600-acre tract. The budget doesn't say this land is in Rockingham County, home to Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, but the state Department of Natural and Cultural Resources said this tract is the only one that fits the budget's specific description.

One of the more complicated earmarks to suss out in the budget is a reference to "in situ treatments" at Jordan Lake, "including algaecide and phosphorous-locking technologies." The budget says \$1.3 million can be used only for this program, and the language fits a product produced by SePRO, a water treatment company with a research outpost in Nash County and a lobbying team in Raleigh that includes former House Speaker Harold Brubaker. Its chemicals would be used in an attempt to clean the lake, though the Army Corps of Engineers would have to sign off first.

The language emerged in the House's version of the budget. It's part of an ongoing effort to put off development rules passed in 2008 to cut down on nutrient runoff into the lake, which supplies drinking water to Cary, Apex and Morrisville and other locales in central North Carolina. GOP legislators tried something similar several years ago, mandating use of solar-powered water mixers called "SolarBees" in an unsuccessful effort to churn lake water enough to prevent the growth of algae that flourish off the excess nutrients.

The General Assembly upped its funding this year for pro-life pregnancy centers around the state. The state approved funding for these centers in 2011, creating a "Choose Life" license plate to raise money. In 2013, it started providing money from the state's general fund, and this year brings a significant increase. (Travis Fain, WRAL NEWS, 7/09/17).

Inmate Health

The Forsyth County Board of Commissioners is expected to vote Thursday on a contract for a health care provider for the Forsyth County jail against a backdrop of two recent inmate deaths. During recent board briefing sessions, several commissioners voiced concerns about keeping Correct Care Solutions on as the jail's health care provider. "We have to find another vendor," Commissioner Everette Witherspoon said at the June 29 briefing. "They're not the only game in town. They're not even a local vendor."

Correct Care Solutions LLC, based in Nashville, Tenn., is also at the center of two different lawsuits in Forsyth Superior Court concerning the level of care it provided jail inmates. Prisoners Dino Vann Nixon died on Aug. 5, 2013, at the jail, and Jennifer Eileen McCormack Schuler on Sept. 18, 2014, at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

The lawsuit filed by Diane Nixon alleges that jail officials ignored her husband Dino Nixon's worsening mental and physical conditions for more than three weeks before his death and refused to give him certain prescription drugs that he needed, including Xanax. The second lawsuit,

involving the death of Jennifer Schuler, alleges that jail officials failed to provide proper medical care for Schuler, who was pregnant.

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, which operates the jail, and Correct Care Solutions deny the allegations.

In May of this year, two men died at the jail. Deshawn Lamont Coley, 39, died on May 2. Coley was serving a six-month sentence after being convicted of driving while impaired. His wife and his family allege that jail officials failed to treat his asthma properly. Stephen Antwan Patterson, 40, died May 26. His uncle, Frederick Patterson, told the Winston-Salem Journal that Stephen Patterson repeatedly told detention officers that he had high blood pressure and that he needed to take his medication. Local groups have held protests over the two men's deaths. The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office and the State Bureau of Investigation are investigating.

For the current 2016-17 term, the county is paying Correct Care Solutions \$4.2 million to provide medical care for the jail, but the company's contract will end Aug. 31.

In addition to voting on awarding a contract for inmate health care services for the jail, the county commissioners are also expected to take action Thursday on a medical plan for the jail, among other items on its agenda. The meeting is scheduled to start at 2 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room on the fifth floor of the Forsyth County Government Center at 201 N. Chestnut St. in Winston-Salem. (Fran Daniel, THE WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL, 7/08/17).

Teen Suicide

An investigation by North Carolina authorities shows that guards at a county jail failed to properly check on a teen shortly before she hanged herself. The News & Observer, citing the state Department of Health and Human Services, reports that Durham County jail officers failed to check on Uniece Fennell, 17, regularly and did not report a tip from another inmate that the girl was a threat to herself. The girl was found hanged March 23. The Office of the Medical Examiner ruled Fennell's death a suicide. She had been in jail since last July on a murder charge in connection with a drive-by shooting.

New Durham jail director Col. Anthony Prignano said he has implemented new policies to make sure officers are checking on inmates in accordance with state regulations. The new policies also prohibit officers from deciding on their own whether an inmate should be on suicide watch. State regulations require that inmates be checked at least twice an hour. The report by the state said a review of the day before her death shows that schedule was not followed.

The electronic record of checks during the 31 hours around her death show that during two of those hours, there were no checks at all while during four other hours, only one check per hour was conducted. Had the teen been on suicide watch, state regulations call for four checks per hour. Prignano said disciplinary steps have been taken, but he would not provide details. He said the discipline did not involve firing, suspensions or demotions, which would be included in the public record. (THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Candidate Filings

The next round of North Carolina elections is starting up, this time for towns and cities. Candidates for elections to city councils and town boards can begin filing their paperwork to run starting Friday at noon at county election boards statewide. The filing period ends at noon July 21. In all, there will be more than 1,000 election contests statewide when some local school board races are included. The biggest races are expected in the biggest cities, such as Charlotte, Raleigh and Greensboro, where mayors and council members will be elected. Primary and general election will be held in September, October and November depending on the community. Early voting and same-day registration during the early-vote period also is implemented in some locations. (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, 7/07/17).

Navy Name

U.S. Rep. Walter Jones of North Carolina has a history of successfully renaming things -- he was behind the use "freedom fries" to jab France at the outset of the Iraq war -- and now he has a new target: the U.S. Navy. Jones, a Republican from Farmville who represents much of eastern North Carolina in Congress, formally proposed the Navy name change during federal budget

negotiations in the House of Representatives. Jones wants the United States Navy to henceforth be known as the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

The Marines are part of the Navy but have never received equal billing. Jones said he has been trying to make this happen for 16 years and wants to give it another shot this year. It's about pride and recognition for Marines, he said in a congressional committee meeting, and their family members. "When the war in Iraq was going at the highest (number) of Marines being killed, I had one family come to me and say, 'Congressman, we are proud to be part of one fighting team, Navy and Marine Corps. But why is it that this condolence letter that I received only said Department of the Navy?'"

North Carolina doesn't have a naval base, but the Marines have a large presence here. Jones' district is home to most of them, including Camp Lejeune, which is home to the second-most Marines of anywhere in the world. Many retired Marines also live in the district.(Will Doran, THE NEWS & OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Brock's Seat

The race for Andrew Brock's vacant state Senate seat has a candidate. Salisbury attorney Bill Graham has notified the Rowan County Republican Party that he's interested in filling the Senate District 34 seat, which Brock vacated roughly a week ago when he resigned to take a spot on the state's Board of Review. Brock, a Davie County native, had served for more than 14 years in the N.C. Senate.

Graham said he's interested in the seat because it's an opportunity to serve Rowan County and the 34th District. Graham said he wants to contribute to the debate about issues in the state and introduce ideas of his own. He said it's an honor that he was asked to consider seeking the seat and added that he looks forward to the process of selecting a new state senator. Rowan County Republican Party Chairman Don Vick said Graham is well-known around the state and has good name recognition.

Graham is a partner in the Wallace and Graham firm in Salisbury with attorney Mona Lisa Wallace. Graham ran for the Republican nomination for governor in 2008 and has been active in various boards, civic organizations, and commissions. After the 2008 campaign, he worked with former Gov. Pat McCrory in different capacities, including the N.C. Economic Development Board. He recently received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award from McCrory.(Josh Bergeron, THE SALISBURY POST, 7/08/17).

Tillis Protest

With the U.S. Senate on recess, opponents of President Donald Trump's health care efforts -- dubbed Trumpcare -- boarded several pontoon boats on Lake Norman on Friday for a "Sink Trumpcare Flotilla" protest near U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis' house in Huntersville. Organized by Progress NC Action, several protestors used loudspeakers to vent their frustration over what they said is Tillis' refusal to meet with constituents about the proposed Senate health care plan, which critics contend would eliminate health coverage for 22 million Americans. "Thom Tillis says he represents the people of North Carolina, but continues to duck his constituents as the Senate tries to pass a health care bill that will be disastrous for our state," said Donna Marie Woodson of Mecklenburg County, a cancer survivor. "Since Tillis refuses to hold a town hall meeting, we decided to go to him -- right to his own backyard."(THE MOORESVILLE TRIBUNE, 7/07/17).

R.J. Reynolds Case

A federal appeals court has upheld a \$28 million judgment against cigarette maker R.J. Reynolds in a lawsuit filed by a Connecticut smoker who got cancer. A three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York also ruled Friday that the case will be sent back to the trial court to see if the company must pay additional damages. Norwich resident Barbara Izzarelli sued the Winston-Salem, North Carolina-based company in 1999 after surviving laryngeal cancer. She smoked the company's Salem Kings cigarettes for 25 years and had her larynx removed at age 36. R.J. Reynolds denied allegations in the lawsuit that it manipulated nicotine in Salem Kings to get non-smokers addicted and smokers to smoke more.(THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, 7/07/17).

OBX House

A New England woman has won a ruling in Currituck County Superior Court allowing her, for the time being, to complete work on her massive ocean-side rental home in the off-road area of the Currituck Outer Banks. In a 12-page preliminary cease-and-desist order handed down on June 5, Judge Walter Godwin told the county to rescind both a September 2016 stop-work order against Elizabeth LeTendre and a February notice of violation against her. Additionally, Godwin said once LeTendre's crews finish work on the house, which he said is approximately 95 percent complete, the county cannot withhold issuing her an occupancy certificate or any other approvals for the house.

Godwin, in his ruling, said LeTendre has the right to develop her property as she wishes, unless there is a valid zoning regulation prohibiting her from doing so. He also said she spent substantial amounts of money in relying on approval of a building permit issued by the county in the spring of 2015. LeTendre, of Needham Heights, Mass., in late March filed a lawsuit in Superior Court against the county. The county is calling for the court to dismiss the suit, while LeTendre's opposing neighbors, Marie and Michael Long, have filed papers with the court seeking to intervene.

No trial date is set in the civil case, but as part of the lawsuit, LeTendre's attorneys, Gregory Wills of Grandy and Benjamin Sullivan of Charlotte, sought to get Currituck Superior Court to lift the stop-work order.

County Commission Chairman Bobby Hanig, when reached by phone recently, said he is "extremely disappointed" with Godwin's ruling. "It's unfortunate that the judge didn't take time to read the information that was put in front of him," Hanig said. "And by all accounts, it was very evident that he did not take the time to do that."

Additionally, Hanig said he believes Godwin overruled an N.C. Court of Appeals judge who ruled in the LeTendre matter slightly more than a year ago and who is supposed to be above Godwin in judicial authority in the state. "I don't know that that's legal," Hanig said.

Godwin also went on to rule that LeTendre, as a result of being unable to complete the house and earn income from the property, has defaulted on her construction loan. He said her lender now has the power to call in the full amount of the loan at any time and for any reason. Godwin said he believes that is because there are no comparable rental properties in the area one can use to calculate LeTendre's lost income with reasonable certainty.

In her lawsuit, LeTendre said she paid \$530,000 for the property and has spent more than \$4.6 million in construction costs. In the suit, she estimates she would have likely lost more than \$1 million in rental income had she first waited for the ruling from the N.C. Court of Appeals. (William F. West, THE (Elizabeth City) DAILY ADVANCE, 7/09/17).

Lumbee Recognition

As the annual homecoming of North Carolina's Lumbee Indians ends, tribal leaders and politicians say they're optimistic that full federal recognition will come soon. Multiple media outlets report that U.S. Rep. Robert Pittenger says he's hopeful that Congress will approve full federal recognition. Pittenger spoke to the 15-day Lumbee Homecoming, which ended Saturday. Pittenger says a meeting will be held with congressional leaders about how to push Lumbee recognition through the U.S. House. He acknowledges lawmakers who represent other tribes are likely to oppose legislation. Lumbee Chairman Harvey Godwin says it's time for Americans to honor the Lumbee tribe. Congress recognized the tribe in 1956, but prevented it from receiving federal benefits. Lumbees aren't eligible for federal economic development programs, including disaster relief for damage caused by Hurricane Matthew. (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, 7/09/17).

Bookmobile

Three weeks ago, as the Republican majority pushed its state budget proposal through the General Assembly, Democratic leadership upset over education funding latched briefly onto a project from the North Carolina foothills. "When you fail to fund a \$150 stipend for teachers statewide to pay for supplies (instead of) out of their pockets, you cannot say you're pro-public education because the Caldwell County bookmobile got \$100,000," House Minority Leader Darren Jackson said at the time. Well, the Caldwell County bookmobile no longer gets \$100,000. That money, included in the final budget that passed the legislature over Gov. Roy Cooper's veto, was deleted two days later via the General Assembly's annual budget technical corrections bill.

This is the legislation meant to clean up language in the lengthy budget, making minor changes here and there and sometimes making not-so-minor ones. In this case, the bookmobile's \$100,000 was shifted to a Caldwell County EMS project. The county plans to buy new stretchers for its ambulances. "The EMS money was a higher priority," said state Rep. Destin Hall, R-Caldwell. Why the change, right at the end of the process? Hall said there was probably some initial miscommunication between him and county commissioners. It's possible funding for the bookmobile will come back in a future budget, he said. The county does not have a bookmobile now, and the money would have purchased a customized vehicle it planned to stock, Library Director Leslie Mason said. "It's unfortunate ... but decisions have to be made," Mason said of the gotten, then gone, earmark. "It was exciting to think about."(Travis Fain, WRAL NEWS, 7/07/17).

Island Ownership

The new island forming off North Carolina's coast has captivated attention from Asia to the United Kingdom, but perhaps the most mysterious thing about the mile-long crescent is a question few have asked. Who owns the island? "Right now, nobody's really claiming ownership," Dare County Commissioner Danny Couch recently told TV station WFMY. "It's sort of a no man's land."

Actually, someone does own what's being called Shelly Island, and your first guess is likely not correct. The world's newest land mass doesn't belong to the federal government nor is it part of the National Park Service's Cape Hatteras National Seashore. It belongs to the state of North Carolina, says Dave Hallac, superintendent of Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Even more specifically, it's under the jurisdiction of Dare County.

However, adding to the island's allure is the fact that ownership could change overnight without anyone raising a finger. "If it were to connect with land, I'd have to do research on who owns it," Hallac told the Observer. "Then, it's possible that it becomes part of Cape Hatteras National Seashore and management of it would be different. That's a question we'll face when it's in front of us. Right now, there's plenty of water between the park service property and the island."

The island, which is about the size of a football field and still growing, is separated from Hatteras Island by a few hundred feet of water, which is no more than 5 feet deep at low tide.(Mark Price, THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, 7/07/17).

Farm Filming

A federal judge struck down a Utah law banning secret filming at farm and livestock facilities Friday as an unconstitutional violation of free speech rights. U.S. District Judge Robert Shelby wrote in his ruling that the law appears tailored toward preventing undercover animal-rights investigators from exposing abuses at agricultural facilities. Shelby said the state does have an interest in protecting the agricultural industry and a variety of ways to do it. "Suppressing broad swaths of protected speech without justification, however, is not one of them," he wrote. It wasn't immediately clear if the state would appeal the decision. Utah Attorney General's Office spokesman Dan Burton said Friday the office is reviewing it.

The law was passed amid a wave of similar measures around the country known as "ag-gag" rules, including one in Idaho that was struck down last year. That ruling is being appealed. Animal Legal Defense Fund attorney Matthew Liebman applauded the Utah decision and said it makes the laws passed elsewhere vulnerable to legal challenges. "We're already eyeing which statutes to go after next," Liebman said. The seven other states with similar laws are Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and North Carolina.(Lindsay Whitehurst, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, 7/07/17).

Boat Ramp

A maintenance area boat ramp at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro is now open to the public. Language in the recently approved state budget requires any park that includes an existing boat ramp suitable for launch of motorized watercraft to ensure the ramp is accessible to the public during operating hours. Superintendent of Hammocks Beach State Park Sarah Kendrick says the small service ramp, used to maintain the park's ferries, opened Saturday. Boat launching facilities have been a contentious topic since Hammocks Beach acquired 290 acres of mainland property, and sought public input on how to develop the land. According to Tideland News, there

are no boat facilities in the master plan awaiting approval from the Director of the State Park System.(Jared Brumbaugh, PUBLIC RADIO EAST, 7/06/17).

Forsyth Medical Center

A for-profit health-care group is closing its hospital facility at Forsyth Medical Center by mid-September, eliminating 76 employees, according to a WARN Act notice filed with the N.C. Commerce Department. Select Medical Corp., based in Mechanicsburg, Pa., has served in a hospital-within-a-hospital role at Forsyth for more than a decade under the Select Specialty Hospital brand. Select Specialty provides long-term acute care for patients with severe trauma or other serious health conditions.(Richard Craver, WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL, 7/07/17).

Wolf Reward

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering a \$2,500 reward for information that leads to a successful prosecution in the case of the poisoning death of an endangered red wolf earlier this year in Tyrrell County. In addition, the nonprofit Center for Biological Diversity on Friday added \$10,000 to the reward for information leading to a conviction or fine in the illegal killing, bringing the total reward offered to \$12,500. The wolf was found dead Jan. 27. The animals are protected under federal law. Although once abundant along the entire coastal plain of the Southeast, red wolves were pushed to the brink of extinction. After the species was declared endangered in 1973, 17 wild red wolves were captured for captive breeding. Wolf releases began in North Carolina's Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in the mid-1980s, but recovery efforts have repeatedly been thwarted by what the center described as illegal killings. Populations peaked at 130 in 2001, but currently there are less than 45 of the animals left in the wild.(COASTAL REVIEW ONLINE, 7/07/17).

Legislative Studies and Meetings

Items in **Bold** are new listings.

LB: Legislative Building

LOB: Legislative Office Building.

More Information: <http://ncleg.net/LegislativeCalendar/>

Thursday, Aug. 3

- Noon | House convenes in session.
- Noon | Senate convenes in session.

N.C. Government Meetings and Hearings

Items in **BOLD** are new listings.

Monday, July 10

- **9 a.m. | The N.C. Board of Occupational Therapy Board meets, 150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1300, Wells Fargo Building, Raleigh.**
- **9:30 a.m. | The N.C. Military Affairs Commission meets, 200 N. Center St. At City Hall, Goldsboro.**
- **2 p.m. | The state Environmental Management Commission meets via conference call. Call originates at Executive Conference Room in Green Square, 217 West Jones St., Raleigh. Contact: [919-707-9023](tel:919-707-9023).**
- 3 p.m. | The UNC Campus Security Committee: Subcommittee on Training Guidance meets, Conference Room C, Spangler Building, Chapel Hill. Contact: Josh Ellis, [919-962-4629](tel:919-962-4629).

Tuesday, July 11

- 8 a.m. | The NC Board of Funeral Service Traineeship Committee meets, 1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh.
- 8:30 a.m. | The state Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors Formal Hearing meets, 1109 Dresser Ct., Board Room, Raleigh.
- CANCELLED - 8:30 a.m. | The Fund Development and Communications Committee of The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. meets, 1100 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh. Contact: Yvonne Huntley, [919-821-9573](tel:919-821-9573).
- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Commission for Public Health hold public hearing on proposed rule changes, Cardinal Room, 5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh.
- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Council of State meets, Commission Room 5034, Fifth floor of the Administration Building, 116 West Jones St., Raleigh.
- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Board of Pharmacy meets, 6015 Farrington Road, Board Room Suite 201, Chapel Hill.
- 9 a.m. | The state Board of Funeral Service meets, 1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh.
- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Coastal Resources Commission Variance meets (if necessary), DCM Regional Offices, Wilmington.
- 11 a.m. | The UNC Campus Security Committee: Subcommittee on Data Collection Protocol meets, Conference Room B, Spangler Building, Chapel Hill. Contact: Josh Ellis, [919-962-4629](tel:919-962-4629).
- 1 p.m. | The North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission meets to discuss flood maps, coastal resilience, and land use planning, Holiday Inn, 203 S.W. Greenville Boulevard, Greenville.
- 2:30 p.m. | The N.C. Local Government Commission meets, 3200 Atlantic Ave., Longleaf Building, Raleigh.

Wednesday, July 12

- 9 a.m. | The state Consumer and Family Advisory Committee of DHHS meets, Biggs Dr., Raleigh.
- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.
- 12 p.m. | The UNC Campus Security Committee: Subcommittee on Security Training Conference meets, Conference Room B, Spangler Building, Chapel Hill. Contact: Josh Ellis, [919-962-4629](tel:919-962-4629).

Thursday, July 13

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Friday, July 14

- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Board of Architecture hold public hearing on proposed rule changes, 127 W. Hargett St., #304, Raleigh.

Monday, July 17

- 11 a.m. | The Executive Committee of The North Carolina Partnership for Children meets, 1100 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh. Contact: Yvonne Huntley, [919-821-9573](tel:919-821-9573).

Tuesday, July 18

- 1:30 p.m. | The Accountability Committee of The North Carolina Partnership for Children meets, 1100 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh. Contact: Yvonne Huntley, [919-821-9573](tel:919-821-9573).

Wednesday, July 19

- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Plant Conservation Board meets, N.C. Cooperative Extension Service Watauga County Center Conference, Room 971 W. King St., Boone.

Thursday, July 20

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Tuesday, July 25

- 9 a.m. | The N.C. Code Officials Qualification Board holds public hearing on proposed rule changes, 1st Floor Hearing Room, Room 131 (Albemarle Building), 325 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.
- 1 p.m. | The Board Development Committee of The North Carolina Partnership for Children meets, 1100 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh. Contact: Yvonne Huntley, [919-821-9573](tel:919-821-9573).

Thursday, July 27

- 9 a.m. | The NC Wildlife Resources Commission meets, WRC Centennial Campus, 1751 Varsity Dr., Raleigh.

Monday, July 31

- 12 p.m. | The N.C. State Board of Elections hold public hearing on proposed rule changes, State Board of Elections Office, 441 N. Harrington St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Aug. 3

- TBD | The Golden LEAF Foundation's board meets, TBD. Contact: Jenny Tinklepaugh, [888-684-8404](tel:888-684-8404).

Wednesday, Aug. 16

- 10:30 a.m. | The Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission holds public hearing on proposed rule changes, Wake Technical Community College-Public Safety Training Center, 321 Chapanoke Road, Raleigh.

Thursday, Aug. 17

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Wednesday, Sept. 13

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Sept. 14

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Sept. 21

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Thursday, Sept. 28

- 10:30 a.m. | The Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Board to the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries meets, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries' Wilmington District Office, 127 North Cardinal Dr. Extension, Wilmington.

Thursday, Oct. 5

- TBD | The Golden LEAF Foundation's board meets, TBD. Contact: Jenny Tinklepaugh, [888-684-8404](tel:888-684-8404).
- TBD | The NC Wildlife Resources Commission meets, WRC Centennial Campus, 1751 Varsity Dr., Raleigh.

Thursday, Oct. 19

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Wednesday, Nov. 8

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Nov. 9

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Nov. 16

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Thursday, Dec. 7

- TBD | The Golden LEAF Foundation's board meets, TBD. Contact: Jenny Tinklepaugh, [888-684-8404](tel:888-684-8404).
- TBD | The NC Wildlife Resources Commission meets, 1751 Varsity Dr., Raleigh.

Thursday, Dec. 21

- 10 a.m. | The N.C. Rules Review Commission meets, Administrative Hearings office, Rules Review Commission Room, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh.

Wednesday, Jan. 10

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

Thursday, Jan. 11

- 9 a.m. | Environmental Management Commission meets, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh.

N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality

The N.C. Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources has a new name - the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality. More Information: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/guest/home>

Tuesday, July 18

- 6 p.m. | The N.C. Division of Water Resources hold public meeting on Atlantic Coast Pipeline Water Quality Certification, Fayetteville Technical Community College Cumberland Hall Auditorium at 2201 Hull Rd., Fayetteville.

Thursday, July 20

- 6 p.m. | The N.C. Division of Water Resources hold public meeting on Atlantic Coast Pipeline Water Quality Certification, Nash Community College Brown Auditorium at 522 N. Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mount.

Thursday, Aug. 3

- 2 p.m. | The state Department on Air Quality holds public hearing concerning incorporation of 2015 Ozone Ambient Standard and Readoption, 2145 Suttle Ave., Charlotte.

N.C. Utilities Commission Hearing Schedule

Dobbs Building
430 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina
More Information: <http://www.ncuc.commerce.state.nc.us/activities/activit.htm>

Monday, July 10

- Staff Conference

Tuesday, July 11

- 9:30 a.m. | T-4635 Sub 0 ...Application For Certificate of Exemption to Transport Household Goods, Dobbs - Commission Hearing Room, 2nd floor, Room 2115.

Monday, July 17

- Staff Conference

Monday, July 24

- Staff Conference

Monday, July 31

- Staff Conference

UNC Board of Governors

Board Room of the UNC Center for School Leadership Development
140 Friday Center Drive, Chapel Hill (**remote meeting locations in BOLD**)
More Information: <https://www.northcarolina.edu/bog/schedule.php>

Thursday, July 13

- **3:30 p.m. | The UNC Board of Governors, Mountain View Conference Room of the Sherrill Center, University of North Carolina at Asheville, Asheville.**

Friday, July 14

- 9 a.m. | The UNC Board of Governors meets, Room 102, in the Reuter Center of the University of North Carolina at Asheville, Asheville.

Friday, Sept. 8

- TBA | The UNC Board of Governors, C.S.L.D. Building, Chapel Hill.

Friday, Nov. 3

- TBA | The UNC Board of Governors, C.S.L.D. Building, Chapel Hill.

Friday, Dec. 15

- TBA | The UNC Board of Governors, C.S.L.D. Building, Chapel Hill.

Friday, Jan. 26, 2018

- TBA | The UNC Board of Governors, C.S.L.D. Building, Chapel Hill.

Friday, March 23, 2018

- TBA | UNC Wilmington, Wilmington.

Friday, May 25, 2018

- TBA | The UNC Board of Governors, C.S.L.D. Building, Chapel Hill.

Other Meetings and Events of Interest

Items in **BOLD** are new listings.

Sunday, July 30

- TBD | The NC Bankers Association host 81st Annual NC School of Banking, William & Ida Friday Center, UNC-Chapel Hill. The conference concludes on Aug. 4.

Friday, Sept. 8

- No Time Given | The 77th Annual National Folk Festival opens in Downtown Greensboro for its third year in the state. Contact: Kaitlin Smith, [336-373-7523](tel:336-373-7523), ext 246.

Sunday, Sept. 24

- TBD | The NC Bankers Association hold Young Bankers Conference, Crowne Plaza Asheville Resort, Asheville.

Wednesday, Oct. 11

- 10 a.m. | The Carolinas Air Pollution Control Association hold Technical Workshop and Forum, Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort, 10000 Beach Club Dr., Myrtle Beach.

Monday, Nov. 6

- TBD | The NC Bankers Association hold Women in Banking Conference, Renaissance Charlotte Southpark, 5501 Carnegie Blvd., Charlotte.

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